

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996
From: JessQRP@aol.com
Subject: [3103] "bad" bands.
Message-ID: <960121185741_202990383@mail02.mail.aol.com>

I am not sure that I buy the bad bands altogether. Yes there have been some nites that good signals are hard to come by, but yet, most nights they are there! You just have to practice the first rule of good operating listen, listen, listen. And then when you are done, listen some more. For those of you on the list that are new to QRP and especially CW, there is a book out there that is a gold mine of good operating practice and information, especially if you are into DX. The book is called "The Complete DXer" by W9KNI. It is one of the most interesting and entertaining books on CW and operating that I have ever read. I read it about 4 years ago, right after getting my extra, and it was worth a 40 db gain in operating skill.

As far as the bands being dead, in the last few days I have worked ZL1 on 40 559, HP1AC on 20 539, C02PE on 40 559, VY9CRC on 40 599, PY2EYO on 15! 549 and TI4SV/5 on 40 559.

I think the key is listening. You can sit there and CQ your brains out and right down the band is something juicy. That is why I like CW, even when the bands are dead, CW will still provide something worthwhile. Granted there are some nites that I have to pump up the power to a mighty QRP kilowatt (5 watts) but I can still make contacts every nite. Don't discount 30 meters. The other nite there was not much on 40, or 80. This was about 12:00 pm local (MST) and so I spun over to 30 meters. A once over revealed a ZK1 calling cq over and over with no takers. A quick couple of calls got me a QRZ? and then a 349, all on a "dead" band long after it should have been closed.

Hang in there and listen listen listen!

Best
Jess

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [3108] 1.3Ahr Gel-Cell Experiment
Message-ID: <199601220259.CAA22384@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

I bought a 1.3Ahr (1.3Ah) gel-cell early in the month, and I'm not so sure now that I bought it in CA, but may have bought it at Altronics here

in Dallas.

Anyway, here are the physical dimensions in metric system

4.2cm(w)x9.6cm(l)x5.1cm(h) date coded 950620Y
which I assume to mean June 20, 1995 manufactured
date. Made by CSB Battery Co., Ltd. in Taiwan

I charged it up on the charger bought in Houston
(see postings in Dec last year). Let it set for
a day before the experiment. Not any particular
reason for this, just the way it happened.

Using a Green Mountain GM-30 for the rig here is
what I get.

GM-30 39.2mA receiver drain at 12.47V
300mA drain in transmit with 0.95W out into
dummy load in MFJ-840 2M Handheld Wattmeter
and using OHR WM-1 to measure power out.
(this is neat trick to calibrate the MFJ too
I set MFJ to read twice the power level as it
is adjustable)

Time Elapsed	Voltage Measured while not transmitting
0min	13.22V
30min	12.90V
1hr 0min	12.81V
3hr 0min	12.48V
3hr 30min	12.47V
(at this time did 39.2mA on receive, 300mA on keydown with voltage 12.24V while transmitting)	
4hr 0min	12.39V
4hr 40min	12.28V
5hr 0min	12.25V (12.02V keydown, 0.95W out)

Rig was in continuous operation sending at 20wpm

CQ CQ CQ DE K5FO K5FO K5FO/QRP K

with 10 second rest period. Measurements on voltages
made toward the end of the 10 second period, as voltage
would start to build back up during the idle periods.

It is hard for me to guess, maybe those more experienced

with the use of small gel-cells for camping purposes can give us your experiences, but I'd guess this would make a great power source for the NC40a sized rigs in the field on backpacking trips. It looks good for about 6-10hrs of operation and it's fairly compact and light (about 18oz). I think that's I'd stop when the voltage got to 11.5 or so.

I'll be using it with the GM-30 on trips, but I will have the charger with me too. Just in case.

I did this experiment just as a data point. I'll do the same for a 3Ahr and 7Ahr (which I think I'll just leave the rig on for a day or two :-). I'll put the rig on the air and call CQ til I get a contact. And put on a dummy load whenever I'm at work or sleeping.

Any data that you want that I left out?

dit dit

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Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996
From: W Marty Ray/DELCO <WMRAY@mail.delcoelect.com>
Subject: [3078] 15 meters open?!?!
Message-ID: <9601210622.AA2319@lnusde.delcoelect.com>

Hey gang, I couldn't believe my ears this afternoon. DeeAnn, my lovely and talented wife, aka N9XLV, was up on the 15 meter novice band and worked a couple of new states. There was quite a lot of QSB, but the guys in California were coming through great!

Maybe there is a glimmer of hope, even in the bottom of The Cycle :)

72 de Marty Ray, NN9H

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [3096] 30M and 40M
Message-ID: <199601211929.TAA21953@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

Several have mentioned that they thought the bands were in better shape and have mentioned that 15M had some signals on it.

I've been playing around on both bands with pretty good results, so I'd say give 'em a shot this week.

I heard P40WA, think Mike said he worked P40WR, but all I got was QRZ and this was at sunrise on Sunday. Thrill was working a VE3 who sounded like he was in the back yard at 1257Z this a.m. We had a nice chat, him 599 me 559, him vertical me long wire. QSL via buro.

On QSL's you'll have to read the next issue of QRPP and hopefully in the next few issues of QST will appear an open letter that I sent to ARRL in response to a letter in the Feb issue. I hope I covered all the bases. Amateur radio is a hobby not a way to make money due to contacts. Mfg'ng yes - QSOs no.

OK, so get off the couch and turn on the rig. Turn off the computer and screen and turn on the rig. I'll be on, how about you?

dit dit es gl

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Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996
From: Dick G0BPS <Dick@deomon.co.uk>
Subject: [3091] club list ???
Message-ID: <KlwEhBA87iAxEw+m@DEMON.CO.UK>

Hi gang,

Some time ago there was a list of QRP clubs floating around the list does anyone still have a copy. If so I would appreciate a copy.
Many thanks...

--

Dick G0BPS

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996
From: Brien Pepperdine <pepperb@gov.on.ca>
Subject: [3098] CT and other stuff
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.90.960121152915.26562B-100000@govonca2.gov.on.ca>

Can anyone please tell me what CT and the ilk D0?? as computer programs interfaced to a rig. I now have a rig with the RS232 port, but no clue at all as to what I can achieve by running a cable to the computer.

What controls, info, etc. do these programs do/provide ?

Thanks.

Brien
Toronto

pepperb@gov.on.ca

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [3106] FOX SCHED [LONG]
Message-ID: <199601220113.BAA22297@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang, Since we have so many new subscribers since the beginning.

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+-----+  
| SECOND ANNUAL INTERNET QRP FOXHUNT SCHEDULE -- 1995 |  
| Version 1.000 - Posted to QRP-L September 18, 1995 |  
| Version 2.000 - Posted to QRP-L January 21, 1996 |  
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For those in the newbie list of subscribers here is the info:
(subject to slight changes at the whim of K5F0) :-)

1. Stations below are foxes.
2. They will come on at time periods shown and I have their states listed along with their calls, names and email adr. They will call CQ FOX and standby. Freqs will be 40M standard QRP calling freqs of 7.040MHz and 7.110MHz and it is up to the limitations of the fox as to what time spent in each segment. Sometimes their rig will only do the lower limit. The usual plus or minus frequency deviations apply due to QRM, dial calibrations, etc. Deviations in schedule will be posted to the list ASAP, but there are no guarantees in life.

3. All foxes will be QRP and you must be QRP too to be in the running for the prizes, which are being accumulated and will be announced at a later date. At the present time consisting of the new NN1G kit (Green Mountain GM-30, GM-20, or GM-17) (donated by K5FO), MXM 40M XCVR (donated by WA6IVC), one year sub to Worldradio (donated by KI6SN), one year QRPp sub (donated by KI6DS), two MI-QRP mugs and one QRP ARCI mug (WB8ZJL et.al.), one year membership in QRP ARCI (donated by KE4PC), and possibly more. Only members of the qrp-l mailing are eligible for the prizes. First choice to winner in the hunters, second to winner in the foxes, etc. You need to be a member just to keep up with the schedule changes and the fun postings. ;-) :-)
 4. You work the guy and you get one point and he gets one point. Exchange RST, QTH, power level, and name or whatever. A point will be given even if only the call is all that is exchanged. It is information. Work each fox no more than once per night as this hinders others and will be considered unsportsmanlike conduct. Fox may work QRO stations too that call, but you must be QRP to be in the race for the prizes. Fox will post results within a few days of their time period. K5FO will post periodic standings for the top scores.
 5. Two groups, foxes and hunters. Highest score in each group gets a big prize. Limit one prize per entry, i.e. a fox cannot also take first in the hunter category too. Final results to be determined by K5FO and the decision of the judge(s) is(are) final. Certificates for working more than 10 separate foxes and special categories such as: most miles per watt, least miles per watt while still QRP (blocks per watt?), most states worked, etc. will be given out. Fun stuff.
 6. I think that's all. It's supposed to be fun and not complicated.
- A. The purpose of this exercise is not a contest. It is and has always been to generate QRP on the air activity during the week, when there are not big contests in progress, just this one :-). This exercise/event/hunt/contest/etc. ... is probably the longest running official test of it's type in the world. No one else would try this, for sure. Remember, it's just a hobby.
 - B. The foxhunt helps this group test out rigs, show off operating skills, develop operating skills, test antennas, etc. I still feel strongly that QRPers have got to get on the air. What good is it to spend a lot of time and money of building, etc. and not put the rig(s) on the air to have fun with? We gotta hold on to the electromagnetic spectrum by using it. IMHO.
 - C. We do CW only for this one, 'cuz the majority (at the present time) of QRP work is done via CW and it simplifies things for this event. The fox will go at your speed, so if you think you are too slow - don't worry. We do 40M only 'cuz it's winter time and some people only have 40M. Last year there was another group that did a SSB fox hunt.

- D. This posting may be reproduced in QRP newsletters with all the info intact but modified for formatting issues. [Probably too late now.]
- E. A copy of this notice and any updates will be placed at the ftp.LeHigh.edu site in October so that it doesn't have to be reposted in it's entirety to this group. :-) And will be updated as needed.
- F. After working a fox, the "hunters" should move off freq and work other members of the group. In those cases where there are two foxes on at the same time they should be spaced apart to eliminate congestion.
- G. Postings to this group re this event should start with FOX: in the subject line so that those individuals that want to automate their mailers to "kill" such postings may do so. :-)
- H. Mark your calendars up and good luck to all and let us all hope for fantastic propagation. May your weak signal be strong, go far, and be heard by all.
- I. And, of course, the rest of the week is open for general QSOs too. Keep those rigs warmed up and on the air.

-----THE SCHEDULE OF FOXES FOR 1996-----

NOTE: All times are in UCT(Z) times and local for the fox. And shown for the start of the two hour period they will be on.

Week Of

January 21, 1996 --

Tuesday	January	23,1996	---	9-11EST	WB8ZJL	Paul
	January	24,1996	---	0200Z		

Wednesday	January	24,1996	---	7-9MST	KK6MC	Jim
	January	25,1996	---	0200Z		

January 28, 1996 -- (NOTE: two foxes one night!!! Note times)

Thursday	February	1,1996	---	9-11EST	N2CX	Joe
	February	2,1996	---	0200Z		

Thursday	February	1,1996	---	9-11PST	N6ULU	Stan
	February	2,1996	---	0500Z		

February 4, 1996 --

Tuesday	February	6,1996	---	7-9CST	AA0XZ	Greg
	February	7,1996	---	0100Z		

Thursday	February	8,1996	---	8-10MST	WW7Y	Steve
	February	9,1996	---	0300Z		

February 11, 1996 --

Tuesday	February	13,1996	---	8-10CST	NN9K	Pete
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	February 14, 1996	---	0200Z		
Thursday	February 15, 1996	---	8-10EST	WA3NNA	Pete
	February 16, 1996	---	0100Z		
February 18, 1996 --					
Monday	February 19, 1996	---	8-10EST	WB3GCK	Craig
	February 20, 1996	---	0100Z		
Tuesday	February 20, 1996	---	9-11EST	W03B	Bob
	February 21, 1996	---	0200Z		
February 25, 1996 --					
Monday	February 25, 1996	---	9-11EST	AA4XX	Paul
	February 26, 1996	---	0200Z		
Thursday	February 28, 1996	---	9-11EST	WA4NID	Dave
	February 29, 1996	---	0200Z		
March 3, 1996 --					
Wednesday	March 5, 1996	---	6-8 PST	N9UXU	Dave
	March 6, 1996	---	0200Z		
Thursday	March 6, 1996	---	8-10EST	N4AOX	Clay
	March 7, 1996	---	0100Z		
March 10, 1996 --					
Tuesday	March 12, 1996	---	8-10EST	W6TOY	Bruce
	March 13, 1996	---	0100Z		
Thursday	March 14, 1996	---	7-9MST	WB4ZKA	Mike
	March 15, 1996	---	0300Z		

LIST OF FOXES

Call	Name	State	email address
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AA0XZ	Greg Nunn	MO	genunn@mmm.com
WJ2V	Preston Douglas	NY	pdouglas12@aol.com
N2CX	Joe Everhart	NJ	jeverhart@cayman.vf.mmc.com
KV2X	TJ Jennings	NY	jennings@eng16.rochny.uspra.abb.com
WB3GCK	Craig LaBarge	PA	74740.3166@compuserve.com

WA3NNA	Pete Rossi	PA	rossi@vfl.paramax.com
W6TOY	Bruce Muscolino	MD	bruce3900@delphi.com
W03B	Bob White	MD	bob_white@ccmail.aerosys.loral.com
KJ4XR	Ken Evans	GA	evans.ken@wgs-2.bwi.bls.com
AA4XX	Paul Stroud	NC	aa4xx@nando.net
N4AOX	Clay Wynn	TN	wyn@stc06.ctd.ornl.gov
WA4NID	Dave Johnson	NC	djohnson@acpub.duke.edu
AB5OU	Tim Pettibone	NM	tpettibo@nmsu.edu
NA5N	Paul Harden	NM	pharden@aoc.nrao.edu
KK6MC	Jim Duffey	NM	ji3m@scubed.com
NA5K	Smitty Smith	TX	hbs@crl.com
N6ULU	Stan Goldstein	CA	stan@cruzio.com
N9UXU	Dave Adams	CA	dave@flowserver.stem.com
WB4ZKA	Mike Pulley	AZ	mike_j_pulley@ccm.hf.intel.com
NQ7K	Mike Conner	AZ	mikec@primenet.com
WW7Y	Steve Kubisch	UT	kub@upl.com
WB8ZJL	Paul Valko	MI	prvalko@Oakland.edu
NN9K	Peter Beedlow	IL	pb13128@deere.com

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Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
 Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996
 From: mvjfm@mvubr.att.com (James M Fitton +1 508 960 2577)
 Subject: [3099] Fused QRP
 Message-ID: <9601212033.AA00445@ig4.att.att.com>

Talking about fuses.....

While touring GB many years ago, operating late one evening (11 pm at dusk !) on a public beach, I connected the battery up wrong on my HW-8.

Heard nothing..... Pulled the cover off and discovered that the inline fuse I had installed (1 amp fastblow) had opened.

Discovered why, pulled the spare taped inside the rig and installed it, and was back in business.....whew !!!!!

You'd think Id fuse the HW-9 , SWL 30-40, & NC-40 PDQ ?
Not yet,..... but pretty soon :)

Thanks Preston for reminding me about British cars....
My ole Triumph TR-3 has a positive + 12V ground system....
Better fuse the rigs before summer !

72 Jim W1FMR

h

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996
From: RobCap@aol.com
Subject: [3093] Heathkit HW-8 Poll: To build or not to build
Message-ID: <960121124204_301604071@mail02.mail.aol.com>

Hi Folks-

I'm taking a poll. I just acquired an unbuilt HW-8, and am wondering whether to:

- a) build the kit for the joy of building it, remembering that I have never built a Heathkit before, or
- b) leave the kit in the original unbuilt condition under the theory that it's a shame to build it and it's more valuable as it is.

I would appreciate your thoughts.

I'm not on the QRP-L, so please send thoughts directly to:

Robcap@AOL.com

73,

Rob, WA3ULH

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996
From: Charles Cashion <ccashion@spdmail.spd.dsccc.com>
Subject: [3082] new license
Message-ID: <199601210436.AA05711@aplo1.spd.dsccc.com>

QRP'ers:

I am now licensed. I am now TECH+. Funny thing, though, the way it happened. One of my co-workers is a VE. We did not even know that the other was interested in ham radio till last Tuesday. And then, on Tuesday, he made me promise that I would come to to a VEC session today at noon. On Wednesday, I purchased study material for elements 2 and 3a and read them carefully. I was prepared for 2 and 3a. I was also sure I could pass element 1a (5wpm). I thought I would just keep testing till I failed. My estimation of where I would fail was off. I thought I would probably fail on element 1b (13wpm). WRONG! I almost copied 13wpm exactly for the test period (perfect copy for the first three minutes). Then I failed element 3b (general written). I was not prepared to take element 3b. (I thought I would fail before I got to element 3b).

One of the question from element 3b is the effects of a down slope on the radials of a vertical antenna. (a) move the reactance closer to 50 ohm or (d) lower the effective angle of radiation. (never mind (b) and (c)). I left the exam and immediately purchased a GENERAL study guide, and the answer is not in the study guide. Anybody want to comment?

Anyway, I am now licensed, and element 3b should be no trouble four weeks from now.

Thanks, and special thanks to the people that took the time to send personal words of encouragement.

Charles Cashion

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996
From: Mike.Czuhajewski@bbs.abs.net (Mike Czuhajewski)
Subject: [3109] Odenton, MD swapfest nears
Message-ID: <1996Jan21.222005.29490@abs.net>

For those of you in the Balto/Washington DC area, don't forget the swapfest coming up on 28 Jan at the fire dept hall in Odenton, MD. The Maryland Milliwatts will be there, or at least some of us, at our own table. I just got my table reservation from the Tablemeister; he didn't indicate if it was next to S&S Engineering as I had requested,

but at least we DO have a QRP table. This is a small swapfest, with 50-something tables, no outdoor tailgating. If you're within reasonable driving distance, you might want to come over and swap QRP stories and show things off, sort of a mini-QRP Show and Tell. The doors open at 0800 local, I think it closes down at 1400, but will probably trickle off well before that and no guarantee how long we'll keep the table occupied. We'll have some back issues of the QRP Quarterly for sale, along with some of the current one. I think Maryland Radio Center in Laurel (5 miles away) will be open that day, too, for those who finish the swapfest early.

73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ wa8mcq@bbs.abs.net

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Mike Czuhajewski, user of the UniBoard System @ abs.net

E-Mail: Mike.Czuhajewski@bbs.abs.net

The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA

Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996

From: brian.carling@acenet.com (Brian Carling)

Subject: [3092] QRP lists for site

Message-ID: <2a6.63288.500@acenet.com>

From: brian.carling@acenet.com

Attention: Steve Hideg N8HSC/9 !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Regarding my lists of QRP manufacturers of kits and parts suppliers etc., known as MEGALIST, STEVE HIDEG wrote:

>Can I send it direct to you OK?

If you mean via e-mail, that's fine.

--Steve

Steve Hideg Macintosh Consultant/Analyst

Office of University Computing	Telephone: (219) 631-EXAM
G034 Computing Center/Math Building	E-mail: Steve.Hideg.1@nd.edu
University of Notre Dame	URL: http://www.nd.edu/~shideg/
Notre Dame, IN 46556	Ham Radio: N8HSC/9

=====

*** Steve - I sent you e-mail but it bounces. ***

Please let me know if you still want to carry the files on your URL OK? I will send the updates to you if we can get your e-mail to

work. Otherwise you can get them yourself from the following sites.
Look for: MEGALIST.TXT DEALERS.TXT TUBES.TXT MANUALS.TXT and
XTALS.TXT

These were all updated around January 18, 1996

Updated copies downloadable from BBSES at: (301) 942-2218
(301) 417-6952, (301) 590-2981, (202) 619-1494, (202) 208-7679
FTP: lujce@hooch.cc.lehigh.edu
FTP: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com
WWW: <http://qrp.cc.nd.edu/QRP-L/index.html>
URL: <http://www.nd.edu/~shideg/>

Please advise if/when these are available at your site so I
can send folks there to read/download them. Thanks!

Please distribute far and wide!!
brian.carling@acenet.com Radio AF4K

SLMR 2.1a

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996
From: Mike.Czuhajewski@bbs.abs.net (Mike Czuhajewski)
Subject: [3084] Saturday night beacon
Message-ID: <1996Jan21.011414.20578@abs.net>

On Saturday night I got e-mail from AA4XX, sent to his "milliwatt beacon address list", saying that he'd activate it for a few hours at 50 mw. I turned on the rig, which happened to be set to 7040 KHz and heard a QRP-L member who I'd never worked, signing his call. I was in a hurry to listen for the beacon so I went down to 7021 and couldn't find it. Back to 7040 to see if I could work the QRP-Ler for the first time, but he was gone. Back to the beacon freq, still nothing. I then slid up 3 KHz and heard P40WA calling CQ and working people contest style--I got him on the third call. Fortunately, P40 is far from a rare one so the lack-o-pileup helped a lot. A quick consultation with Mr. Tektronix told me that I had 4 volts peak into the dummy load, for 160 milliwatts, so the evening wasn't a waste.

Re the posting from W1HUE about having a QSL from W5FUX--I once worked GM30XX, George Burt, one of the truly great QRPers of the world, and he was running one watt. As a matter of fact, he has NEVER run more than one watt, which G3RJV will attest to, and the front of his QSL has a very large numeral 1. K3TKS told me he also has another design. On that one, there is a picture of Mickey Mouse

with his hand raised, making a well known but often unappreciated gesture, which is supposed to indicate that he's only running one ****ing watt :-) BTW, a quick search of the callbook indicates that calls in all ten US districts skip from FUW to FUY, and there are a couple of other FU_ calls which are also conspicuously absent :-)

Back to the beacon--I listened a couple hours later as I typed this up and heard him at 50 mw--a bit anticlimactic since I've already copied him at 2 mw :-) And if anyone would like to send him a reception report, the secret code word for the transmission on Saturday night is DF(!Q%MLs@#

PQ9d

NO CARRIER

DISCONNECT

C:\>

(Sorry, couldn't resist....)

73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ wa8mcq@bbs.abs.net

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Mike Czuhajewski, user of the UniBoard System @ abs.net

E-Mail: Mike.Czuhajewski@bbs.abs.net

The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA

Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996

From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)

Subject: [3105] Sunspots

Message-ID: <199601220031.AAA22228@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

I forgot in previous listing. Last night in tuning across 40M I came across W1AW starting up and giving out messages. One that I copied a part of was on the current sunspot info.

Six of the days from Jan 11 to Jan 17th yielded a sunspot count of zero and only 11 on the 17th. Mean of less than 2. 10.7cm flux was around the high 60's to low 70's with mean of 70.

"Solar activity extrememly low. On six of the past seven days there were no visible sunspots, and every day the solar flux was below the average flux number for the previous 90 days. As we are near the bottom of the solar cycle, don't expect much change. For the next year we should see many more periods with no sunspots. For the next few weeks there should be little activity, except for a possible coronal hole causing a geomagnetic disturbance a few days from now."

I'm with everyone else. The low bands 30M, 40M, 80M, and 160M should be usable and we just have to get on listen. I even call CQ once in a while just to see if there is anyone out there tuning across the band and can hear me. Heck, with the keyer on automatic all I have to do is listen while I work on something else. Kills two birds with one stone - so to speak. If everyone listens the band will seem to be dead.

Right now it's funny. I'm listening on 10.120MHz. No one on for a while and then I hear "QRL?". A wait and then the guy starts a CQ. It's not 5 seconds later and two, count 'em two guys are calling CQ. Go figure. About 0023Z (well exactly if you wanna know). :-)

FYI - dit dit

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Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996
From: herr@ridgecrest.ca.us (Michael Herr)
Subject: [3101] The great BSA cabin trip OOPS!
Message-ID: <v01530502ad295a47da6e@[199.120.150.82]>

Well gang, I blew it! We got the Boy Scout troop up to our rustic old logging camp cabin neat Piute mountain (southern en of the Sierra's). Tromped through the snow and set up camp. I pulled out the trusty 40 meter dipole that I've carried all over the country side and got it up into the air. Went to try out the NorCal 40 with my zing ding KC-1 installed, OOPS! only to discover that I had left at home! Bummer! The only qso for the weekend was with my wife, N6VGW, on 2 meters via the bird springs repeater. Woke up on Sunday morning with the big storm pouring snow on us! After a quick breakfast and packing , we picked our way back down the mountain for an early return home. The boys all had a great time, sledding and sliding across the frozen pond, would have been better witht he NorCal 40 along! Well, I wont for get that again for a while, watch next time I'll forget

the antenna! HI HI
72 all and thanks to those who listened for me!
Mike WA6ARA

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996
From: marco puccini <mpuccini@home.gpnet.it>
Subject: [3088] TRACOR RX
Message-ID: <3100C4B7.5B82@mail.gpnet.it>

HI FRINDS
DO SOMBODY HAVE SOME INFORMATIONS ABOUT THE VLF/HF RECIVER TRACOR 599K
THANKS FOR ALL

MARK PUCCINI
IK3CSV VENICE ITALY

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996
From: prvalko <prvalko@Oakland.edu>
Subject: [3080] TUESDAY NITE FOX!!! (fwd)
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.960120225503.27893A-100000@vela.acs.oakland.edu>

Yes, I'm shouting the subject :-)

Folks, this Tuesday evening each and every one of you lovely people will
have the opportunity to work one of the finest foxes ever to hit the air, ME!

So tune in Tuesday night, January 23 from 9:00pm (0200 UTC 1/24/95) until
11:00pm EST (0400 UTC).

I'll operate 7.040 for the first HOUR, and spend the first 15 minutes of
the second hour on 7.110. I'll go another 15 minutes if there is activity.

NOVICE AND SLOW SPEED OPS TAKE NOTE: I will be calling CQ FOX probably
around 15wpm (even slower on 7.110) my call until further notice, is
WB8ZJL. It's long and crude but flows nicely on CW with all those "dit
dits" at the end of almost every character (sorry Chuck). Come BACK to
me at WHATEVER SPEED YOU *REALLY* operate. 5, 7, 1 wpm, I don't care,
I'll break out the hand key if I havta' GOD help you all.

Rig :Ten Tec (of course) Corsair I (the pretty one)
:possibly the NorCal 40A+ if I feel lucky, punk
Ant :40M Full Wave kinda north south running, ladder line feed,
naturally
Key :Bencher, so sue me... I've been known to use alligator clips
Keyer :MFJ-sumthin' or other, KC-1 in the Norcal40A+, that's why it's
a "+" model
Prize :I and my friends in MI-QRP Club are donating a fox prize, a matched
set of very expensive MI-QRP Club coffee mugs. They look good and
make whatever you serve from them taste, Ever-So-Much-So better!
Chuck has to choose what the award category.

Best Album : Alanis Morissette - Jagged Little Pill, Maverick Records.

OPPS! I bet I wasn't supposed to let that outta the bag yet!
Don't tell anyone you heard it from ME ;-)

73! =paul= wb8zjl

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996
From: hx445@cleveland.Freenet.Edu (Christopher R. Doherty)
Subject: [3083] worldwide callsign server
Message-ID: <199601210548.AAA20468@nextsun.INS.CWRU.Edu>

QST

A few days ago, well maybe a few days ago, it could have been a few days ago, (My memory doesn't serve me as well as it used to. But then, I may never have had a really good memory and age has nothing to do with these lapses and time distortions.) Nils asked to have someone look up a certain call sign. Guys name was Lopez and I forget the callsign. (Don't laugh, at least I remembered 50% of the info.)

Well anyhow, in my wanderings through the internet, I found a callsign server on the WWW. Buckmaster World Wide Callsign Server. Seems to work ok, I ran a few callsigns belonging to hams from across the great water and I got a response. Here's the URL,

URL: http://www.buck.com/cgi-bin/do_hamcall

Hope this is helpful.

--

-73- name hr chris es qth scranton, pa sk de n3uvr qrp

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996
From: WILLIAM STUDLEY <AA10C@gnn.com>
Subject: [3100] Wyoming Valley QRPers
Message-ID: <199601212140.QAA03268@mail-e1a.gnn.com>

I was wondering how our friends in the Wyoming Valley area are doing? Has anyone heard a report from that part of the country? News bulletins up here in NH are sparse to say the least. Hope that everyone is safe.

GL & 72

Bill, AA10C

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996
From: Ptcandy@aol.com
Subject: [3090] Re: ?? on finding Semi-conductor book
Message-ID: <960121092746_402516332@emout04.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 96-01-20 19:44:43 EST, you write:

>My favorite YL call is N0BRA.

Is she a twin?

Tnx for the info.

Peter N2KPY OM to N 2 S X Y

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996
From: Frank G3YCC <frank@yorks.demon.co.uk>
Subject: [3087] Re: AOL Billing Problems and Credits
Message-ID: <2ZFivIA+op\$wEwXc@yorks.demon.co.uk>

In message <960118082712_200134284@emout05.mail.aol.com>, JDuffy@aol.com writes

>

>Sorry to have to post this to the list, but there are a number of QRPers out there using AOL for access to the list.

This is interesting in a way as AOL is now here in UK and is advertising

free software, 10 hours free etc, and with a local PoP for me. I suspect that I will stick with my server, Demon, which does not have an hourly rate ...

--

Frank G3YCC G QRP CLUB 042 RSGB ARCI
Packet G3YCC @ GB7HUL.#15.GBR.EU

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996
From: Rick Blank <rblank@legend.txdirect.net>
Subject: [3095] Re: Heathkit HW-8 Poll: To build or not to build
Message-ID: <199601211842.MAA00804@legend.txdirect.net>

At 12:43 PM 1/21/96 EST, you wrote:

>Hi Folks-

>

>I'm taking a poll. I just acquired an unbuilt HW-8, and am wondering whether
>to:

>

>a) build the kit for the joy of building it, remembering that I have never
>built a Heathkit before, or

>

>b) leave the kit in the original unbuilt condition under the theory that it's
>a shame to build it and it's more valuable as it is.

>

>I would appreciate your thoughts.

>

>I'm not on the QRP-L, so please send thoughts directly to:

>

>Robcap@AOL.com

>

>73,

>

>Rob, WA3ULH

>

>

If you really want an HW-8, with a bit of patience you should be able to find a nice one to take apart and put back together for twice the fun of building!

I say leave it alone as an example of the kits once available to those of us who enjoyed building...FWIW, I know personally of an SB-220 kit that went for over \$1000.00 last year....the bud of mine that bought it paid \$250 for it, so, he had quite a profit margin. Have you ever seen a constructed SB-220 go for that amount?

I have an unbuilt SB-610 monitor scope that's going to stay that way.

Rick Blank, KI5SL rblank@txdirect.net
2223 Blanco Road KI5SL@K3WGF.STX.USA.NOAM
San Antonio, Texas 78212 AMSAT NA#26195

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996
From: stan@cruzio.com
Subject: [3097] RE: Heathkit HW-8 Poll: To build or not to build
Message-ID: <Chameleon.960121120305.stan@mail.cruzio.com>

On Sun, 21 Jan 1996 12:43:29 EST RobCap@aol.com wrote:

>I'm taking a poll. I just acquired an unbuilt HW-8, and am wondering
whether
>to:

- a) build>
- b) leave the kit in the original unbuilt

A radio is a joy to behold (and use).

An unbuilt heatkit is a bag of parts.

Stan , N6ULU
1995 Fox Champion
128 countries worked on the Norcal 40

stan@cruzio.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996
From: rsm@halcyon.com (Robert Marlan)
Subject: [3107] Re: Heathkit HW-8 Poll: To build or not to build
Message-ID: <v02130500ad284dff2ec2@[198.133.235.8]>

>Bob-

>

>It's not for sale (sorry).

>

>You wouldn't believe how long it took me to find one! This was sitting in
>the closet of an elderly gentleman for 20 years.

>

>So anyway, if you had one, would you build it?

>

>73,

>

>Rob

fair enough I wouldn't sell it if I were you either!!! ;)

Its a very personal decision but if it is unbuilt it is just
a box of parts (yes historic). If It were mine I would built it very
slowly taking my time and probably some pictures. That way you can
enjoy both building and operating a rig you built. But... to
each his own.

PS I am looking for a mint HW8 any leads anyone?????

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996

From: Frank G3YCC <frank@yorks.demon.co.uk>

Subject: [3089] Re KE5YP

Message-ID: <LNfviDAy3fAxEwth@yorks.demon.co.uk>

Thanks to all who supplied Howard's address, I'm very grateful. However
what I requested was his packet radio BBS address, which I now think is
@kf5ym.ok.usa.na. Sorry if I didn't make my request clear, but can
someone on packet confirm the above?

--

Frank G3YCC G QRP CLUB 042 RSGB ARCI

Packet G3YCC @ GB7HUL.#15.GBR.EU

Nostalgia ain't what it used to be!

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996

From: "David D. Meacham" <ddm@datatamers.com>

Subject: [3085] Re: OHR vfo drift addendum

Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.960120221947.9263D-100000@dt1.datatamers.com>

Steve,

The AL value depends on the core size. Here are the values for popular sizes:

T25-7 29
T37-7 32
T50-7 43
T68-7 52

Hope this helps. 72, Dave, W6EMD

On Sat, 20 Jan 1996, Steve Miller wrote:

> Oh well back to the drawing board! Ran a long term test today (of course it
> was after I sent the earlier msg on my sucess!) and see a slow negative
> drift set in after an hour or so. Have done some more cap fiddling and now
> looking at the inductor can....does anyone know the AL value on #7 core
> material - like used in the Norcal?? Am thinking of trying a similar
> inductor, bolted down, to replace the stock inductor can (8 uH)and can't
> find my notes. Will keep the list posted. 73
>
> Steve Miller KG7PV Norcal # 308, QRP-L #109
> Portland, Oregon
>
>
>

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996
From: John&Suzie_Rollins@pmug.org (John&Suzie Rollins)
Subject: [3081] Re: Re: vanity calsign
Message-ID: <192008189.22035843@pmug.org>

>>Darn. I suppose that means I won't be able to get W1SOS, then huh?

Guess not... That would cause too much trouble... But it would be interesting
to hear on the air! hehehe :-)

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996
From: John&Suzie_Rollins@pmug.org (John&Suzie Rollins)
Subject: [3079] Re: REAL MAN's callsigns
Message-ID: <3251634142.21996218@pmug.org>

>>.what about W1DUH??!!.....

>>

>>Harry

>>Wa1VVH

hehehe :-) For another Simpsons call sign, instead of DUH use DOH. Hmm... W1DOH... Now THAT would sound wierd! :-) Actually, though, I think the fact that you can even get wierd callsigns like these is a little disturbing... But then I could use my Simpsons sound clips on the radio! Wow...Scary...

-JR

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996
From: DAVID TEAGUE <dwteague@mci.newscorp.com>
Subject: [3086] Re: Saturday night beacon
Message-ID: <199601210754.CAA23280@camus.delphi.com>

At 01:17 AM 1/21/96 EST, Mike.Czuhajewski@bbs.abs.net wrote:
>On Saturday night I got e-mail from AA4XX, sent to his "milliwatt
>beacon address list", saying that he'd activate it for a few hours at
>50 mw.

Well time here is 1:40 A.M. CST and the beacon is s-4 in central LA on my dipole @ 45 feet.
I am chatting with N5KDA on 2 meter SSB in Natchez MS and he is copying the beacon s-9 on his 2 element yagi.

Maybe 40 meters is getting better?

73 Dave
Dave Teague KF5IU EM31 Jena, LA

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996
From: Ed DeBuvitz <edeb@indirect.com>
Subject: [3094] Re: Saturday night beacon
Message-ID: <Pine.BSD/.3.91.960121113949.9838A-1000000@bud.indirect.com>

On Sun, 21 Jan 1996, Mike Czuhajewski wrote:

> Re the posting from W1HUE about having a QSL from W5FUX--I once
> worked GM30XX, George Burt, one of the truly great QRPers of the
> world, and he was running one watt. As a matter of fact, he has
> NEVER run more than one watt, which G3RJV will attest to, and the
> front of his QSL has a very large numeral 1.

K3TKS told me he also
> has another design. On that one, there is a picture of Mickey Mouse
> with his hand raised, making a well known but often unappreciated
> gesture, which is supposed to indicate that he's only running one
> *****ing watt :-)

Mike...I worked GM30XX and yep...I have the Mickey Mouse "1 *****ing watt
card."

Ed W5TTE

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sun Jan 21 21:33:20 1996
From: Clark Savage Turner WA3JPG <turner@safety.ICS.UCI.EDU>
Subject: [3102] Re: Wyoming Valley QRPers
Message-ID: <17814.822262838@safety.ics.uci.edu>

I have been in contact with my son out there in the flood plain
of Plymouth, PA. He says the river has crested and all is well
there for the time. However, he explained that upriver in
Scranton, and downriver, in Harrisburg, there is trouble. I
saw reports on the national news. You can check there tonight
if you can stand the commercials :-)

Clark

WA3JPG, veteran of the flood of 1972 in Wilkes-Barre.